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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 22, 1850. teopy-RIGHT SECURED.

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW.

A STORT OF THE ISLAND ESTATE.

BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH.

BOOK SECOND. VI-CONTINUED.

On Wednesday morning, Miss Somerville and Anna were sitting out on the piazza. Both were in mourning. Susan was engaged, mechanically, with her everlasting knotting work. Anna was reading to her from Felicia Hemans's poems. They had been left to Susan by Britannia O'Riley, who bestowed upon her her whole collection of books, casts, and pictures, before leaving the Crags. There were few who read poetry with more appreciation, sympathy, or finer elecution, than Anna. She was reading the " Crowning of Corinne at the Capitol," and when she fin-ished—

"Radiant daughter of the sun Now thy living wreath is won. Crowned of Rome! oh, art thou not Happy in that glorious lot !ppier, happier far than thou,

With the laurel on the long. Is she that makes the humblest hearth, Lovely but to one on earth ""

"Read on! I like it," said Susan. "There is the wail of a broken heart in every line she

But Anna resolutely closed the book. "This is unhealthy, Miss Susan, this is morbid, in you, in Corinne, and in the poetess whose sweet but enfeebling strains we have just been reading. The heart of this ideal Corinne was destroyed by a conflagration of passion-what then? She had a glorious brain. It was impossible to live in a ruin-what then? She might have lived in a palace. She had no life in her affections-well! she might have had a glorious life in her intellect! The soul lives in the heart and in the head-in the affections and in the intellect. A strong soul driven out from its own wounded heart ascends into its brain-and finds a higher if a colder life. It is only in despair, in inaction, that such a spirit suffers long. The stronger the faculties of the soul, the more it suffers in inaction. An idiot will sit all day, and day after day, happy in idleness; an intelligent child will be miserable if confined an hour without employment or amusement. An extremely arm-chair, in the same corner of the same room pleased and happy; a young person grows weary if a day's rain confines him to the house. A fee ble and subdued prisoner will linger out years in his cell in a sort of torpid resignation; a healthy, strong captive struggles and chafes in his fetters The soul is a sort of prisoner in the body-and the stronger and more healthy it is, the more i chafes and frets, until it finds its life in action-its freedom in action. A young person, full of reressed life, health, and energy-full of strong powers that crave their development-experience a lassitude, a listlessness, a weariness of life, for

which they cannot account, especially when they hear the season of youth spoken of as the season of joy. Such a young person will take to reading or writing sentimental poetry, and grow weaker, more weary, and more useless, every day. Now sentimental poetry has its mission, but it is to soften the hard-not to liquefy the already soft. The cure of such brain-sick youth is not in that. Let any young man or woman tormented by this terrible ennui take my word for it, that the nature of their suffering proves them to possess great powers undeveloped! Let such seek their vocation, and pursue it. And this is a sure guide!

the powers of mind and body to a focus to bear upon that point-to break down every obstacle, conquer ever difficulty, and press onward to the end, however distant, however difficult, however seemingly unattainable-for then at least the powers of the soul will be brought out in all their glorious life, energy, and joy! Every one has his talent, and he will suffer in proportion as he lets it rust in his heart. And this I lay down as a rule, without an exception, that no healthy human being-however young, beautiful, loving, and loved, however intellectual, however wealthy

Let them find out that useful occupation in which

they take the most pleasure, and then bring all

" I am knotting," smiled Susan, with a sad sar casm, " yet I do not find in accumulating yards of cotton fringe, and piles of toilet covers and valances, any peculiar pleasure; nor am I sensible of any great happiness in counting these meshes."

powerful, honored—that NO HEALTHY HUMAN BE-

"That is not labor, Miss Somerville, though i serves to calm your nerves. That is not labor; i goes on mechanically, almost without your consent; your fingers act as your heart beats, as your lungs breathe, involuntarily. You are strong, and idle, and you want work. Labor is

"And how, with your limited knowledge of the world and of books, have you arrived at that con-

"One does not need a library, or a tour round the world, Miss Somerville, to work out some things. All human nature is contained in on small village church-I had almost said in one small child. All books of ethics and philosophy are contained in one pocket Bible. The Bible, a few histories, and a few poems, have been my library, as you know. The party at Mont Crys tal was my tour of the world. For the rest, Miss Susan, while you were laring, I was thinking. I saw scores of young girls and young men at Mont Crystal, all seeming, at first sight, bright and happy ; but all, in proportion to their strength of soul, deadly weary of the monotonous round of eating, drinking, dressing and flirting. Yet that was said to have been a very delightful party the young people were said to have enjoyed them selves heartily. I knew better; they tired of it in three days, and only continued it because nothng better offered by which to employ themselves No-with all other means and appliances, toil is an indispensable requisite to happiness. As I said, every one has his or her appointed work, and is tormented with restlessness until they have found it. What do you take most pleasur in doing, Miss Susan? I know-I have studied ou, Miss Susan. You are happiest when work ng for others, without minding what that work may be. Miss Susan, you must seek a position where you can spend your days in the service of

be the wife of some wise, calm, strong, country clergyman, with an extensive field of labor before him. But see, Miss Susan!" said

missing the effect of this beautiful moving panorama of clouds over the sky and river. The descent from the Crags to the river level is said to be monotonous, because almost destitute of vegetation-but look! it is varied with every form of rock, and every shade of gray. Gold in the sunshine, and bronze in the shade! Every little fragment of stone is gold on the one side and bronze on the other. Now, look at the sky and the river; see the gilded clouds sailing through the blue ether, and their shadows moving on the waters! See the Isle of Rays, how it sparkles in

the sun !" "Yet it is a forsaken and empty house."

"Just now, yes; but it beams and scintillates all the same. And now raise your eyes to where Mont Crystal towers on the opposite bank, with its white granite walls and rows of crystal win-dows glancing in the light!"

"Yes, but its cold splendor encloses an aged and solitary woman!"

"You find gloom in everything to-day, Miss

"Ah! Anna, I cannot help it !" "But look at this picture, that God has hung out before you! See how the sky smiles in blessing on the earth and waters! See how they smile back in love! See how the clouds combine, dissolve, and change, with a misty brightness, an ever-varying radiance! Did ever skies beam with more love—did ever earth smile with more gladness than now? Oh! look and listen, and acknowledge God in his works! The halls of the Island Palace are lined with the rarest works of the greatest masters. Recall that masterpiece of Claude Lorraine and tell me if it approaches this in value, though that cost a thousand guineas, and could only be purchased by a millionaire; and this is hung out in the sight of all, for nothing! The soul of the artist was in that, but the soul of God is in this! The painter expressed himself

Suddenly Anna grew pale—started as she gazed down the flight of rocks—turned, as by an instinctive impulse, to fly—scated herself again as by a second resolution, and gazed steadily out

upon the rocks. "What had been adulted hirse Somerville. Anna pointed to where three horsemen were just coming in sight, up the ascent. They approached the house, dismounted, and walked towards Miss Somerville and Anna Anna grew paler still, trembled—then setting her teeth, and elenching tightly both hands, with a gesture

full of strength of soul, she summoned her physical energies to their post.

"Miss Susan Somerville, I presume," said the first man, lifting his hat to the young lady.

"That is my name, sir," replied she, rising to " My name is Power, deputy sheriff of

Will you come in, Mr. Power ?" asked Susan, who heard this announcement with surprise, but not fear. She was ignorant of any cause she might have to dread the deputy sheriff "Thank you, Miss," he replied, and followed Susan to the sitting-room.

" Take a chair, sir." " No, I am much obliged to you, Miss," he said setting his hat and whip down on the table, and numaging in his pockets for a paper. Susan watched him with increasing perplexity.

"Let me see; how many negroes have you on the place, Miss Somerville?" "I have no domestics to hire out, sir," replied Susan, believing that she had now divined the

"How many slaves have you about the house, then, Miss Somerville."

What! my dear young lady !"

"Sir, I have my foster-parents, George and Harriet, who brought me up, and my foster-sister and companion, Anna, who has always shared my room, my table, and my school. They are quad-roons. I do not call them slaves."

"They were the slaves of the late Major Som Yes, sir." "And they are yours now."
"No, sir! I do not for a moment acknowledge

any right in myself to hold them. My dear dfather's funeral took place only on yesterday fernoon, and to-morrow morning I go to Rich nond to take measures for their emancipation! said Miss Somerville, in a cold, severe tone—for rould-be purchaser.
"Will you? Ah! yes! well! A generous an

praiseworthy design on your part, my dear young lady!" said the deputy sheriff, perceiving for the he object of his visit. Will you, however, let me see these people

"Will you, hower-rille?"
"Oh, he is the test atherer?" thought Susan.
"Certainly, sir," the replied; then, turning to Anna, she said, "Anna, will you call your pa-

Anns, who had conquered herself, and now stood calm, cold, and impassable, went o

obey.
"Is that one of them?"

" That girl !"
" Yes, sir." "Why, she is white!"

"Very nearly, sir."

Anna now returned to the room with her paents. Poor George entered from his work-bench. with his white felt hat on his head, and a wisp of fine-cut flag and his working knife in his hand. He pulled off his hat at the door, and stood waiting to be spoken to. Harriet stood by him, with resting on his arm. Anna went and stood by Susan.

"Your name is George, my man?" asked the deputy sheriff, seating himself at a table, and taking out a pocket apparatus for writing.

"Your age?" asked the sheriff, beginning t

"Sixty years, sir," replied George. "And your wife's name is Harriet?"

"Her age?" he inquired, continuing to mak

"Forty-five, sir." That young girl is your daughter?" "Yes, sir," replied the father, the muscles his face twitching.

"Anna-aged eighteen," answered the poor hat convulsively.

The sheriff now went to the door, and called in the three men who had remained in the piazza. Two of them entered and remained standing

near the door. The third accompanied him the table. ville," he said, as they passed Susan.
"I thought that you were the ass

said Susan, simply.

"No, Miss," said the deputy, without smiling at her mistake. "Jones," he said, addressing the assessor, "look at that man and tell me how much you think him worth "How old is he?"

"Sixty."
"Hum! he looks nearer seventy; but these mulattoes break down very early. He looks very

"Say one hundred and fifty dollars?"

"Ye-e-e-s-scarcely that"
"One hundred?"

"Well-Il; ye-e-es!"
"Look at the woman.

" How old is she?" "Forty-five," she says.
"She looks more like fifty. Put her at—at-Has your wife good health, my man?"

"Yes, sir," sighed George.

"Well! there is some work in her yet. Puther at two hundred dollars."

"Now, then, for the girl; you see what her personal appearance is—eighteen years old; well educated, and all that—now, what is her value?"

educated, and all that—now, what is her value?"

The assessor looked at Anna; and, as his sensual eyes roved all over her girlish figure, gloating on her beauty, he muttered an exclamation—
"She is a handsome girl, and it would be a good spec' to take her to New Orleans. She'd bring twelve or fifteen hundred dollars!"

"Gentlemen!" said Susan Somerville, turning towards them, "You will do me a favor by getting this assessment over as onicity as may be

not care for a few dollars more or less of taxation, but I do care to have my privacy invaded and my friends here subjected to this indignity—the last, if it please Heaven, that they shall ever suffer, for to-morrow I will take measures for their imshe, suddenly, "while we are talking, you are peditious will you?" Pray, gentlemen, be ex"A moment, young lady, a moment! At what

do you value the wench, Jones ? 1 The assessor walked towards Anna, still keeping his brutish eyes riveted upon her; and, walking around her as though she had been a horse for sale, he lifted his hand to turn her about.

claimed the hitherto patient George, springing to his child's side. But, even before he had reached her, the calm- law ! souled dignity of Anna, breathing through every look and attitude, had repulsed him. He returned

dollars in New Orleans.

"That is not the question ; what would she bring "Gentlemen, I beg of you"-commenced Susan Somerville.

"Be patient, young lady. What is her value

"One instant, Miss Somerville. Well, Jones,

Three hundred dollars! "My dear Anna, can you forgive me, that this utrage is offered you before my face?" "You cannot help it, dear Miss Somerville,"

"Miss Somerville," began the deputy, "I have now to perform a very painful duty; a simple and "Yes, as short as an execution," muttered

George.
"Miss Somerville, lattach this property at the suit of Spier & Co., Grocers, Peakville Susan started to her feet, clasped her hands, and turned deadly pale, as the truth suddenly

Anna stood still and white. George and Harriet threw themselves in each other's arms, with a cry.

"To me books; Briggs and Brown! look to the doors!" shouted the deputy, whom this action had alarmed, enringing to his feet.
The two constantes sprang to the hoors, secur "Cock your pistols!"

"It is unnecessary, sir; we will make no resist-ance," said George, gently disengaging the arms of his wife from about his neck. "Oh, my Saviour, my Saviour, have mercy on us!" cried Susan, wringing her hands. Be patient, Miss Susan, dear Miss Susan, said Anna, caressing her.

· Have you the handouffs, Jones?" "Yes; here they are."
"Oh, my God, no! you will never do that!"
eried Susan, in anguish. "My dear young lady, if men were turned by the tears of women, we should never do our duty. Give me the fetters, Jones; here, we will se-

cure the two women together, and then the man And the deputy, taking the fetters, went up to the spot where Anna and her mother now stood. locked in each other's arms.

""YOU SHALL NOT DO IT! Away! YOU SHALL NOT DO IT!" shouled George, bounding between his wife and child and the officers, and brandishing his knife-all the latent and terrible ferocity of the MIXED BLOOD leaping, like forked lightning "I have been patient; I would have followed

you like a whipped hound follows his master; you might have handcuffed me, but not them! See, I am her father; and I will bury this knife in your in hers, sooner than you shall place a

With no more add, as deputy suddenly raised the end of his loaded whip, and brought it down in a sharp and stunning blow upon the head of the gray-haired slave, who dropped in a heap at his feat!

With a piercing scream, Susan Somerville sprang forward, and fell upon her face in a death-Harriet, pale with terror, clung helplessly to

Anna alone was self-posses "Sit down, dear mother, and let me attend to Miss Susan and father. Or, mother, try to attend father, while I get Miss Susan up stairs." And, gently easing her trembling mother down upon a chair, she went to Susan's side, and, lifting her head, and addressing herself to one of the men who had taken no part in this violent scene, be-yond guarding the doors, she said—
"Will you be so good as to lift this young lady

and bring her up stairs with me?"

The man looked at his superior for permission.

"Yes, take her along," said the deputy, "It's the devil's own business, an affair of this kind,

And the officer raised Susan in his arms, and bore her after Anna, who led the way up stairs. bore her after Anna, who led the way up stairs.

Taking advantage of Susan's swoon, Anna's absence, and George's insensibility, to finish the affair quickly and quietly, the deputy sheriff attached the little old family cart, the old family horse, and harnessing it up, bound George and laid him in the bottom of it; placing Harriet, who willingly accompanied him, by his side. Then, leaving a bailiff in charge, the deputy set off for the county fown.

the county town. They were a mile from the Crags before Susan Somerville recovered from her swoon. She re-covered painfully, with spasmodic twitchings— opened her eyes, groaned, shivered, closed them

opened her eyes, groaned, shivered, closed them again. Soon re-opening them, she looked around, and seeing Anna, said—
"Anna! Anna! are you there? Oh, Anna, I have had the most dreadful nightmare!" and sighed heavily again, and covered her eyes with her hands, as shudderings convulsed her frame. gazed long and searchingly in her face. Then groaning, "Oh my God! It was no dream! It was true!" fell back and covered her face with her hands. In a few minutes, without uncovering her face, she inquired, "Whereare they, Anna?"

"Gone, Miss Susan." "I mean your mother and father?" " Gone!

"Oh, my God! And you, Anna?"
"I am left here in charge of a bailiff until some other assistance can be sent to you. Perhaps I shall stay all night with you. And now, Miss Susan, pray and try to calm your mind, for to-morrow you must do something."

"What is it, Anna? Oh, suggest something that I can do, and never fear but that I shall get

better, and grow strong enough instantly to do it! It is the helplessness of our situation that nakes me despairing and ill!"
"Then, Miss Susan, you had better write

General Scuart-Gordon; he will assist us, with-out doubt. Notice will have to be given a certain number of days before any sale is made, and in that time General Stuart-Gordon can be heard

"I will write to-night, Anna" "No, Miss Susan, you could not hold a pen o-morrow will be quite time enough."

"Alas! Anna, what has not 'to-morrow' cost us already? It was to morrow that I was to have gone to Richmond to see about doing you justice! Ah, Anna! if I had gone to-day, you and your parents might have been saved!"
"Not so, Miss Susan! We were watched;

they would have followed and attached us on the not suffer such pangs of remorse; but, oh, I fear it was my delay alone! Yet I never dreamed of

"It was inevitable, Miss Susan. You could not help it. Try to be composed."

"You are so composed, Anna! How is it that
you are so composed?"

"Ah, Miss Susan! a misfortune long looked for does not startle one when it arrives.

"You expected this long, then?"
"For more than six months, Miss Somerville.
"Ah! why did you not tell me?"
"You could not have averted it; why tormen "You could not have averted i "Then, when I supposed you to be grieving

"That was it, Miss Susan." "Oh, my dear Anna! I have never done you justice!" "Try to rest, Miss Susan."

A silence ensued. Anna supposed Miss Somerville to be composing herself to sleep, but presently the low sounds of weeping, under the sheets, stole on her ear. At last—

"Anna, are you there yet?" murmured Susan.

"Yes, Miss Susan,"

"Go to bed, Anna! Do go to bed. Something must be done, if it be in the power of human tears, and prayers, and persuasions. I will humble myself to these men, Anna. Oh! if human hearts can be moved by human misery, you shall be de, he lifted his hand to turn ner about.
"Dearn! Hands off my daughter, sir!" exsaved, Anna!"
"Ah!" thought Anna, "they will have but

one answer to your prayers, Miss Susan-the law!'" but she said, "Yes, hope, Miss Somerville!" And feeling that Susan could not grow quiet unless she herself seemed to rest, Anna the table.

"She would bring fifteen hundred or a thousand bade her good night. Susan turned on her pillow, seeming to sleep, but really busying herself with a thousand impossible plans for saving her foster-sister, and redeeming George and Harriet. Anna withdrew to the window to draw the curtain and exclude the moonbeams, that her mistress might sleep more quietly. And she looked out upon the rocks falling down to the river, the "Gentlemen, I insist"—began Susan again, with river and the banks floating in a flood of silvery her cheeks burning and her eyes flashing, "I insist that this is arrested. I command you to finish the sky in streams of light, like a sheaf of diamond-tipped arrows. She whispered, "Oh! beaumond-tipped arrows. mond-tipped arrows. She whispered, "Oh beau-tiful! My ohl father—my gentle mother! it is in the midst of God's beautiful creation that these the deeds of hate are done! Yet, not of hate-let me be just! Let me be patient! Let no passion of mine distort a local necessity into a deed of hate ! Oh, thou Crucified! who rememberedst amid the replied Anna, calmly.

"Have you done, gentlemen?" indignantly demanded Miss Somerville, as the deputy and the a portion of thine own divine calmness, patience, assessor folded up their papers and returned them and justice! Let me remember the position, the to their pockets and proceeded to button up their education, the prejudices, the undisciplined passions of these men, and do them justice! How beautiful, how holy, this night! How sublimely calm ! Let no storm arise in my own bosom t

desecrate this holy calm !" And oh! a divine peace was let down from Heaven into the depths of her spirit, and her heart was flooded with patience and love, still dilating into a strange joy !

What is this? oh, angels! what is this? Evounds of Creation, seems expanding, brightening, and rising ! A heavenly languor was stealing over her her frame; she bowed her head upon the window-

Heavenly dreams visited her—the walls of the sill and fell asleep ! room disapheared—the horizon expanded—the sky was inned up—the neavens opened—the wings of angels brightened the sky—the voices of angels made melodious the sir!

Oh, ye sorrowing! make clear the paths of the

angels to your souls! Dismiss anger, fear, and selfishness, that the angels may come and minis-"Till sorrow, touched by God, grows bright

With more than rapture's ray,

As darkness shows us worlds of light

We never saw by day!" Early in the morning, Susan Somerville arcse, and seeing the form of Anna reclining on the window-sill, and bathed in the glory of the morn ing sun, she went up to her, spote to her, and receiving no reply, touched her, and started back with terror-ANNA WAS DEAD!

The physician pronounced her death to have proceeded from some organic disease of the heart And no one disputed the decision of the medi-

The coroner's jury came nearer the truth in their verdict-" A VISITATION OF GOD. TO BE CONTINUED.

For the National Era.

TO THE HON. DANIEL WEBSTER. No. 3. ingenious, and, in the main, just. Fanatics, upor a small scale, are especially annoying. They interrupt the current of human opinions, without turning the channel or enlarging its bounds. But the evolution of a "single idea," when it lies at the foundations of society and government, is one of the boldest, most useful, and glorious, of freedom and true morals have been won by just such men as you describe. I need hardly mention examples. Take the human life of Christ himself. He was a fanatic to the Jews and Gentiles. To the shness," and to the Romans an innovator-"turn ing things upside down." After all, the new ideas which he introduced into the world were few, but of immense importance—underlying the By a subtle analysis of the human heart, h iated a rule of conduct which is applicable

to all possible emergencies of moral action, "Do you." The other idea was the rejection of all physical peace-offerings to God. material sacrifice was worldwide, and pervaded all classes of society—more fixed and universal in human opinion, perhaps, than any other idea. This he rejected, and restored nature to herself. perfecting his greatest work—man. Enlighten the intellect; purify the soul; and beautify the body-these are the three bases of all true wor ship of God. And, if so, our fanatical friends the Northern Abolitionists, are not so narrow in their ideas as one may suppose. Slavery is in di rect antagonism to the only elements of human civilization and progress. Are not, then, the great mass of cavillers at the "one-idealsts" hemselves to be pitied, who cannot see this great truth! I imagine to myself John C. Cal listening to your strictures upon fanatics. Now one, then another, of these "odious sgitators," pass in the memory's review: first Hale, and then Giddings; and then, as you dilate upon the subject, William L. Garrison, the arch-fanatic, subject, William L. Garrison, the arch-matte, appears. He enjoys the sport: you mend your pace; he is in ecstacies: the "fun grows fast and furious" till, like Tam O'Shanter, he can contain himself no longer—"Well done!" he cries! "Quid sides? de te fabula narratur!" Daniel Webster denounces fanatics! the greatest of fanatics applauds!

"Impatient wen" there are no doubt too.

"Impatient men" there are, no doubt, too Some of them have been waiting for sixty years and more, for slavery to "die out;" and yet it seems as unwilling to give up the ghost as it did in 1787! How much longer must we patiently wait? How long do you think the slaveholders would have us wait? They are proverbially liberal, sir; leave it to them, and we should be after judgment" would be soon enough! I do not see the appositeness of your parallel between the rise of Christianity and the fall of slavery. Moral truth is one thing, and political action is another. We cannot compel belief, but we can action. In Niblo's garden, in 1837, your perceptions. tions seemed to be somewhat clearer. You would hardly have regarded it as a good reason for setting up slavery in Texas, where Mexico had abolished it, that the Christian religion had been a long time in existence, and had not yet subjected

all the world!

"Impatience," if the South was in good faith making efforts and sacrifices to extinguish slavery, would be worthy of denunciation. But, when they are doing the very opposite, such ill-timed sympathy will hardly be set down, by impatial men as the fruit of an eularged charity! partial men, as the fruit of an enlarged charity And moral insensibility is worse than fanaticism! It may be true that society, left to itself, in all cases, may right itself at last. Soil, by bad culture, may in a single year waste the accumulations of centuries! True, centuries will restore it! But is it the part of wisdom to take the remedy instead of the prevention? So, sir, it is with edy instead of the prevention? that moral truth is not capable of demonstrat as the mathematics, is now admitted by the best thinkers to be founded in error. The method is thinkers to be founded in error. The method is different, but the result—certainty—is equally attainable, though the process be more difficult and the data more complicated. But what if true? The standard of every man's action must be at last what he believes right. You seem, however, to follow a learned magistrate, such as the great West sometimes boasts: "He was satisfied, from all the evidence, that the complainant ought to gain his suit; but, out of abundance of caution, he would decide for the defendant!" Your charity towards Southern Christians in part well based. There are many, very many, conscientious slaveholders; but they are the "weaker hrethren." The leading minds among them are as finished Jesuits and swindling hypocrites as ever wore a black gown! The regular slave traders are infinitely better men!

The opinions of the fathers of the Government were as you say. It was expected that slavery would "run out." Sherman and Madison and others were not

to put the word slavery in the Constitution. Washington and others looked forward to an early extinction of slavery as a fixed fact. All, all united in denouncing it as an evil. Some, as

a'curse, a wrong, and a sin.
Will any man deny, from all the evidence in the premises, that it was a part of "the compro-mise" that slavery was allowed time merely to die with decency! The Ordinance of 1787, pro-hibiting slavery north of the Ohio, was coeval with the Constitution. The time of slave-importdie with decency ! ation was limited; and the institution itself was

Now, sir, when so much is said about "good grew and spread itself over the membership, as faith" and "compromise," might not one who comprehended the "great mission" of our nation (such is the cant phrase!) have said to the slave propagandists, you are at war with nature— at war with the advance of Christianity—at war with the progress of civilization-at war with our avowed sentiments and the organic law of our Government-at war with the spirit of the national "co-partnership"—at war with "the com-promises of the Constitution"—at war with every pure conscience—and ought to be, and will be, "resisted at all hazards, and to the last ex-

Pardon me. I think such a declaration was to ave been expected from you. Allow me to say your "charity." I refer you to Governor Hammond as my authority for saying that "moderation," "charity," and "moral species," and "moral species, "m tion," "charity," and "moral suasion," are, with slaveholders, synonymes with cowardice, impertience, and "nonsense!"

The main cause of the abandonment of the South of the faith of our fathers is, as you state it, the increase of the cotton crop. But this cause has passed north of Mason and Dixon's line, and produced a change of tone in both free and slave

another. Your defence of the South is character-istic of the legal profession. What are truth and have declared "that they will sustain no relation, crything, from the centre of my own spirit to the | right in the face of one hundred millions of dol | and perform no act, that will countenance the sys

> As much as I abhor slavery, I abhor the defence more. One strikes down the liberty of the Afri-can—the other, mine. One enslaves a people the other, the human race. The one avowedly prostrates only political rights—the other saps the foundations of morals and civil safety, also. This "political necessity" is the father of murder, of robbers, and all religious and governmental tyranny. This is the damnable doctrine upon which was built the inquisition, the star chamber,

No, sir; that which is a fault in individuals, is a crime in governments. We can guard against the danger of a single assassin, but a government is irresistible and immortal in its criminal inflic-

The doctrine that individual honesty is compatible with political profligacy, or that individual and governmental responsibility are distinct, is one of the boldest sophisms that was ever allowed to linger among the shallow falsehoods of the

Retribution follows swift in the footsteps of crime, whether perpetrated by one or a thousand. "Though hand join to hand," the wicked shall not stand. The poisoned chalice of slaveholding propagandism is already commended to their own lips. Their spirit of aggression has awakened a like spirit of resistance. They would have Texas; we will have California! Yes, sir; though corron and corron mills perion porever! The unconstitutional precedent of a simple majority of both Houses taking in slave States, will in turn crush the political power of the South to atoms. Then how long will her God-defying tyranny stand be-

re the hot indignation of a world in arms Respectfully, your obedient servant

For the National Era SLAVERY SINFUL IN ITSELF. AND NON-FELLOWSHIP OF THOSE PRACTICING

IT THE DUTY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. I believe slavery is sinful, and that the church ought to purify herself from it; but we anti-slavery men ought to stay in the church, and work to pu-

1. Then God did wrong when he con is people to "come out from corrupt Babylon,

eceive not of her plagues."

2. The history of the church shows that God's policy of coming out from a corrupt church is the correct policy to secure a pure church. Hence God called Abraham out from the idolatrous con-nection in which he was. He did not stay to purify it. Christ and his followers lived in a corrupt age, and, like the prophets, they offered sacrifice at Jerusalem, because their religion was then o Samaritan woman, the time was coming when men could offer sacrifice on that mount everythe tie of ceremonial observances broken-we find And from that time onward they were, in all respects, separate from the Jewish church. Under the Gospel, God commands, as we have seen, this policy; and in this way only has a pure church church was attained by a line of secessions, reach ing from the Novatians, A. D. 251, to the Dona these to the Albigenses and Waldenses; from these to the great Protestant secession in the days of Luther and Zuinglius. Who disputes the duty of the PROTESTANT secession, in obedience to the command, "come out from her, my people?"
If the reader does, then he is bound to go back to "the mother church" - the Roman Catholic church, as that church yet claims. Many branches of the Protestants became corrupt. Wesley at-tempted reformation in the church; but his fol-lowers saw that duty and correct policy required them to come out, and they did so. So did the Independents and the Puritans, who planted religion in our own country. And the churches now, in their turn, as we have seen, having be-

ylon-it is now a duty equally imperative upon the people of God, to come out.

The opposite policy has been a failure. For sixteen hundred years, such men as Erasmus, Fenelon, Massilon, and others, have been staying in the church to purify it. Did they do it? Never! They died where they began, amid corruption. Like the sun-fish in stagnant waters, amidst death-struggles, they reflected some beautiful rays, only to be covered by tides of coming corruption. How different the history of Novatian, Donatus, Wickliffe, Luther, Zujnglius, Me. tian, Donatus, Wickliffe, Luther, Zuinglius, Melancthon, and others, who came out with them:
They and their churches were beacon-stars, warning of danger on the one hand, and directing to the port of safety on the other. These churches came out, chiefly, on account of immoral prac-tices in the old churches; and hence they were called, even in the days of the Novatians, cathari-

tury, Christians have been talking and preaching in the church against slavery, and trying to pu-rify the churches by staying in the churches. It is said that our Methodist brethren, in the beginis said that our Methodist brethren, in the beginning of their labors after the Revolution, fasted
and prayed over this subject three days. They
came to the conclusion, in opposition to the teachcame to the conclusion, in opposition to the teaching of God, that they would suffer the extortioner to stay in their communion five years, and that they would preach against it—purge it out by "preaching principles." What has been the re-sult? Why, their practice neutralized their words, and slavery grew on them every year, un-til at last it were out many of them, and their words, and slavery grew on them every year, until at last it wore out many of them, and their principles, too, burst their church asunder, planted itself in the dwellings of thousands of the membership in both divisions, and sealed the lips of the ministry. Once it was a very common thing to hear implications, and sealed the lips of the ministry. Once it was a very common thing to hear implications, and sealed the lips of the ministry. Once it was a very common thing to hear implications, and sealed the lips of the fact that that a jury should go out with the case, and their sermons, in the most unsparing terms. Now, and south of Mason and Dixon's line, there are hundred in the sermons, in the most unsparing terms. Now, and sealed the lips of the good that the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel and advocates may proceed to argue it. We have been sufficiently advertised of the fact that that it is nothing more nor less that a jury should go out with the case, and the process of the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with it, the counsel after the jury has gone out with the case, and the process of the jury has gone out with the case, and the process of the jury has gone out with the case, and the process of the jury has gone out with the case, and the process of the jury has gone out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, and the jury should go out with the case, a

bondman, refusing to touch his galling yoke with even the tips of their fingers. Soon indifference was converted, in many instances, into scoffing hate and relentless proscription; so that if one dare speak as the founder of the body once did, it was at the peril of his ecclesiastical life. A with the Presbyterian church. They have had, for more than half a century, their talks, their sermons, their memorials, and resolutions. They have "preached principles:" and what have they done? As in the Methodist church, their acts

their highest courts, slavery still finds a shelter. Lately some individuals and churches are beginning to come out. Many in the New School body, after the division, had hopes that that body would purify itself, and thought to remain in the church, and aid in the work. But, to their mortification, they saw slavery under this banner, too regularly increasing its slave territory, and mul-tiplying its slaveholding members. At last, individuals, presbyteries, and synods, seeing that the policy of staying in the church to purify it is an inefficient policy, have determined to take God's plan of coming out, and have done so. Many

blow her into ten thousand fragments. The same work of secession is now going on in the Methodist church. Many are now seeing that discipline is impossible, and that the controlling influence is pro-slavery, and are obeying God by coming out: some as Independent Methodists, others as True Wesleyans, &c. The work is also going on in the Baptist church. Among the Free Will Baptists, six hundred and sixteen minem, or imply indifference to its multiplied enormities." They say further, that " slavery is a direct 1787, by one hundred millions of dollars, in 1850, violation of the law of God; and that by refusing is converted into a blessing, a right, and a religious to support slavery, its principles, or its advocates, and by muchholding Christian and church followship from all guilty of the rin of slavery, and by re-membering those in bonds as bound with them, we wish them our number of the goan of this

iniquity These open separations from slaveholding bodies are doing immense good. They are not only dig-ging out and holding up truth on the subject of secession, and thereby forming public sentiment and waking public conscience, but they are en-couraging and inducing many others to follow their example; so that already the old bodies beginning to look about for their members. Self-preservation begins to look them earnestly in the face. And if these bodies are ever reformed, it will be a hundred fold more by the enlightening, drawing, and driving influence of those who have and shall come out, rather than the stulti-fied preaching of those who stay in. If they are not reformed, they will bury in their fall the few Erasmuses, Fenelons, and Baxters, they may have. Notwithstanding the foregoing truths, many,

as an argument for staying in the church, say, pervertingly, "a little leaven leavens the whole lump." They mean to assert that those who are pure, and have truth on their side, should stay in the church, to pour truth upon error, and thereby purify the church. We reply— 1. Then God was in error, when he said to his

people, "Come out." [TO BE CONTINUED.]

CONGRESS. THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS -FIRST SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1850. Compromise Committee- A Struggle- A Fracas A great many anti-slavery petitions were presented by Messrs. Hale, Seward, and Hamlin, and ordered to lie upon the table. After the despatch of the morning business, the Senate took up the special order, being the motion of the Senator from Mississippi to refer the resolutions of Messrs. Bell and Clay to a select committee of thirteen. To this motion, when the Senate adjourned last Thursday, the following amendment was pending:

was pending:

Provided, That nothing in this reference shall be so construed as to assert or imply the exist-ence of any power whatever in Congress for the abolition by Congress of slavery within the States; nor to authorize the suppression by Con-gress of the slave trade between the States; nor that Congress ought to abolish slavery in the forts, arsennis, dock yards, and navy yards of the United States; nor that Congress ought to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

This amendment was a modification propos by Mr. Clay and accepted by Mr. Benton. Meantime, Mr. Clay, having had time to think the matter over, concluded to back out from his modificanational one, and there was but one place where men
could offer sacrifice—at Jerusalem. The necessity
of CREEMONIAL ORSERVANCES, made responsibilities
different from the present. But Christ told the has abandoned the position which secured him temporary sympathy at the North, and has resumed his natural place, at the head of the slave-

holding delegation.] Mr. Clay moved to amend the amendment by striking out all after the words " Provided, That, and inserting "the Senate does not deem it ne-cessary to express in advance any opinion, or to give any instructions, either general or specific, for the guidance of the committee."

Mr. Clay, in submitting his amendment, said that he deemed the amendment of the Senator from Missouri entirely unnecessary. Mr. Benton. I accepted the modification proof compromise—the amendment is really his own—and now he proposes to rub it all out.

fall back on my original one. the suppression of the inter State slave trade, the

and arsenals of the United States, the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and every subject not specially referred to it.

Mr. Clay renewed his amendment as a substi-Mr. Benton thought the proposed amendment Mr. Benton thought the proposes was no amendment at all—the object of an amendment being to make a resolution or propo-tion this was an attempt to baffle sition better, but this was an attempt to the design of his amendment altogether. said that the great object was speedy action.
They had but three days and a half this week.
In that time, if they would take up the California bill, they could dispose of it. But send the

Senate, were to wait upon the remains of Mr. Calhoun to South Carolina—and they would be bsent one or two weeks.

Mr. Benton, for the purpose of reaching Calfornia bill at once, moved to lay the subject of appointing a committee on the table, but with-drew it at the instance of Mr. Clay, who proceed-

subject to this compromise committee, and there would be a delay of two weeks or more. The

committee would report perhaps in a few days, but their report would not be taken up in the ab-sence of the six Senators who, by order of the

Mr. Benton. I propose the point of my tion, if there he any point in it, to his sp amendment. My objection to it is, that it is an independent resolve to govern the conduct of the South of Mason and Dixon's line, there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, who will apologize for, to one who will even mincingly speak against it. And in the church North, having yet in slave States some twenty thousand slaves in her clutches, few of her ministers ever say anything from the pulpit against the iniquity, and if they do, it is to "heal slightly the hurt of my people." Yes, so paralyzing have been the consequences of fellow-shipping the iniquity, that even the followers of Wesley slumber with quiet conscience over the clanking chains and mangled bodies of the poor

putting an end to the whole case he is arguing This is rather a new proceeding in the Senate of the United States, and I object to the idea of sending out a jury with a case, and leaving other

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nators here to argue it. The Senator from Kentucky, sir, charges me with occasioning all the delay in the admission of California. And how do I occasion it? By resisting a motion to send this question to a com-Have I not a right to do that? If I have mittee no right to do it, it is a question of order, which the Chair may decide; and if it is decided that I have no right, I will sit down at once. But while I have a parliamentry right to proceed in a cer-tain way, all efforts to deter me from proceeding, by throwing on me the blame of obstructing business, will be of no avail. But this is no novelty We have great examples for throwing the blame of being promoters of disturbances upon those who are innocent. I believe, Mr. President, there were never more professions made in favor of peace, there were never more encomiums delivered upon peace, nor ever greater sentiments of devotion to peace, uttered or professed by any being upon the face of the earth, than were uttered by him who was the greatest of warriors—the great Emperor He was always for peace; how, then, came he to be always in war? Because, when his armies entered a country, the people would resist, and that made war, and made him a disturber of the peace be was so anxious to preserve. That is exactly the way the great Emperor got the name of being a disturber of the peace: the people would resist when his armies entered their country. All that

he asked of them was to submit; all that he asked was that they should be quiet, and let his armies move over their country.

In the same identical manner, Mr. President, with a parallelism which has been drawn here somewhat too close for a parody, the Senator from Kentucky charges me with delaying the admission of California, because I resist where I have a right to resist, and, more than that, where I hold it to be my duty to resist, and where I am sustained by sixty years of uninterrupted legisla-tion of the two Houses of Congress. Sir, three times Washington, the father of his country, sent in messages for the admission of new States precisely under the same circumstances as those under which President Taylor sent in a message in this case. Tennessee, Kentucky, and Vermont, were all admitted precisely under these circumstances, and upon the presentation of messages precisely like this. The table, course were under the same circumstances and by messages under the same circumstances and by messages. wards under the same circumstances, and by mes sages of the Presidents of the times in which those States were admitted; making eight in the whole, being as near half as eight can be of seven-

teen. I am doing what has been done for sixty years Every State that has been admitted for sixty years has been admitted in a bill by itself, except in one single case, and then two were put together in the same bill. Two States applied for admission at the same time, and had no more right than California now has, for they made their Constitions for themselves without the previous authority of Congress. The Senator from Kentucky undertakes to say that these things will go on, and California will come in sooner, if she is mixed up with all these foreign questions—for-eign to her, certainly. Now, he certainly under-stands what he says. I do not. The supposition is, that the hill is to go faster when complicated and loaded with all these subjects than it can go alone. There is something in that which is inex-plicable to me. I know there is an idea, which may be called vernacular, prevalent in some parts of the country, that a horse can pull stronger if he has a weight upon his back; and I have often seen large packs with two or three bushels of grain upon a horse's back while he was straining every nerve in pulling a load up hill. The argument was, that it kept the backbone straight, and enabled him to draw directly against the centre of every joint. [Laughter.] That was done in the case of drawing; but this is a case of running. heard it supposed that a horse ran faster for hav-ing a load upon his back; but when we come to look at what is proposed to California, we shall find that she has not only three hundred pounds upon her back, but we shall have a hundred pounds to tie to each leg, and still a pretty considerable weight to tie to the tail. I should like to see how California would run with three hun-

dred pounds upon her back and a hundred to each leg, and fifty pounds to the tail. each leg, and fifty pounds to the tail.

I have been occupied, Mr. President, wholly with the preliminary question of laying this resolution upon the table, and postponing its consideration for the purpose of taking up the California bill. The question is now as to the delay, the almost indefinite delay, with the chance of eventually losing the admission between the two Houses. We have now three full days remaining of this week, and I think, if we proceed, we can in these three days come to a decisive vote on the California bill; and in doing that, we shall have washed for the House of Representatives to do their duty, a thing with which we have nothing to do.

a filing with which we have nothing to do.

Mr. Douglas rose to correct a misapprehension
of Mr. Clay in respect to the bill for the admission of California — Mr. Clay having intimated
that it contained no provision for securing the
title of the United States to the public lands in
the new State. Mr. Douglas was proceeding to
show that this was a great error, when he was
called to order for discussing a subject not pertinent to the question. Mr. Benton moved to lay the subject on the table, for the purpose of taking up the California bill. The yeas and nays were ordered, and the

Chase, Clarke, Corwin, Davis of Massachusetts, Dayton, Dodge of Iowa, Dodge of Wisconsin, Douglas, Felch, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Jones, Miller, Norris, Phelps, Seward, Shields, Smith, Walker, and Webster—24. Nava — Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Bell, Bor-

land, Bright, Butler, Cass, Clay, Clemens, Davis of Mississippi, Dickinson, Downs, Foote, Hunter, King, Mangum, Mason, Morton, Pearce, Rusk, Sebastian, Soule, Spruance, Sturgeon, Turney, Underwood, Whitcomb, and Yulee—28. [It will be remembered that on the motion of Mr. Douglas, last Thursday, to lay the subject upon the table, the vote (a test vote) stoodyeas 26, nays 28. The vote above shows a falling off of two in the minority. Mr. Upham. who voted yea on Thursday, was absent to-day Mr. Sturgeon, who was absent Thursday, voted nay to-day. Thursday, Mr. Webster voted nav. to-day, yea. On the former occasion, Messrs Wales and Spruance of Delaware voted yea; to-day, Mr. Wales did not vote, and Mr. Spruance voted in the negative. Mr. Cooper of Penn sylvania, who canvassed that State during the Presidential contest for Taylor and Free Soil, denouncing slavery in the bitterest terms, knew that the subject of this Compromise Committee was coming up Thursday, and left the city, to attend the Clay festival in New York. He shunned the responsibility of voting then, and also occasion, we do not know. Nothing but a sick ness disabling a Senator from being carried to the

Senate can excuse his absence at such a time. It will be perceived, then, that the minority was reduced by the desertion of Mr. Spruance o Delaware, the refusal of Mr. Wales to vote, and the absence of Mr. Upham, while it gained Mr. Webster. Had Messrs. Wales and Spruance maintained their ground, and Mr. Upham been in his place, the vote would have been a tie; the Vice President would probably have given it in favor of Freedom; and the subject of California would have been taken up.]

would have been taken up.]

The question recurring on Mr. Clay's amendment to Mr. Benton's amendment, Mr. Miller of New Jersey said that he thought this amendment not in order. The amendment not only strikes out the amendment proposed by the Senator from Missouri, but, if adopted, it declares that no further instructions on any other point shall be given to the committee. Now, can that be done? If it can, I mistake the rule in regard to a bill. Suppose this amendment is offered to a bill, and a Senator moves to strike out all of the amendment, and to substitute in lieu thereof's declaration that no further amendment shall be made to the bill. Can that be done? The amendment goes further than the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri, for it not only strikes out his amendrules of the Senate, when a resolution or bill is under consideration, it may be amended at any time, and we cannot declare by an amendment that no further amendment shall be made to the bill. Neither can we declare that no other or